IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A message memory (1) equipped with:

- a logical, virtual memory representation (2) for a configurable number of message-object memories and their data capacity for the storage of message contents,

- a physical memory (3) divided into a specific number of segments,

characterized in that the data capacity of the individual message-object memories and their association with the segments of the physical memory (3) are configurable.

2. (Original) A message memory as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that a message object takes the form of a cluster of multiple memory segments.

3. (Currently amended) A message memory as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 or 2~~claim 1, characterized in that predetermined configurations are defined in the application software.

4. (Original) A method of defining the association between the logical representation and the physical memory for a message memory (1) equipped with:

- a logical, virtual memory representation (2) for message-object memories with a plurality of data fields for the storage of message contents,

- a physical memory (3) divided into a specific number of segments,

characterized by the following steps:

- determination of the length of a message content in bytes,
- selection of a number of memory segments per cluster as a function of the byte length of the message content, wherein a cluster forms a message-object memory.

5. (Currently amended) A use of a message memory as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1 in applications in the automotive sector or in data processing.